## DOH-PINELLAS RECOGNIZES WORLD TB DAY WITH **EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR ON MARCH 22**

## **CONTACT:**

Audrey Stasko, Public Information Specialist Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Audrey.Stasko@FLHealth.gov (727) 568-8160, work (727) 281-5094, cell

Each year, the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) observes World TB Day. March 24, as a day to educate the public about the impact of TB, recognize the progress made in TB prevention and control programs and explore what more can be done to end TB.

This year's theme, "It's TIME," focuses on the importance of strengthening TB education and awareness among health care providers.

On Friday, March 22, two days before World TB Day, DOH-Pinellas will bring together medical professionals and

St. Petersburg, FL 33701 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 2-109A providers (physicians, nurses, community and public health professionals) for a free seminar from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at DOH-Pinellas, 205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St., N., St. Petersburg.

The four-hour seminar will focus on current TB trends and statistics, how to work together to identify TB, legal information regarding TB and an in-depth look at case studies from the state, as well as a presentation from QIAGEN about interferon gamma release assay (IGRA) blood test screens.

Presenters will include the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease; TB Control Section Administrator Duane Ashe; TB Medical Director Dr. David Ashkin and TB Registered Nurse Consultant Sherrie Arwine. Beverly Diehr, Chief Legal Counsel with the Florida Department of Health's West Central Florida Legal Consortium, will provide an update on TB laws and policies.

The seminar offers continuing medical education and continuing education credits plus a light lunch and beverages. To register for the free event, go to https://itstime2endtb.eventbrite.com.

For more information about the CDC and World TB Day, go to www.cdc.gov/tb/worldtbday/.

For more information about DOH-Pinellas, go to www.PinellasHealth.com or follow us on Twitter at @HealthyPinellas.



## **About the Florida Department of Health**

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at <a href="MelethyFla"><u>@HealthyFla</u></a> and on <a href="Facebook"><u>Facebook</u></a>. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit <a href="www.FloridaHealth.gov"><u>www.FloridaHealth.gov</u></a>.